



6/11/03

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

SB 293 (Bishop)

This bill would require the director of the Department of State Police to allow any governmental public safety agency to utilize the Michigan Public Safety Communications System (MPSCS), including attaching public safety communications equipment to current towers.

The Granholm Administration still opposes this bill arguing that it is unnecessary since the Governor issued an Executive Directive No. 2003-12 that allows local law enforcement to use MPSCS towers.

- The Senate did not concur with the House changes to SB 293 [RC 199:0 yes, 38 no].

SB 234 (Hammerstrom)

SB 460 (Patterson)

These bills would reform the small group market in Michigan for Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS).

Senate Bill 234 would make small market reforms and other changes to the current laws regulating BCBS.

- The Senate did not concur with the House changes to SB 234 [RC 200:1 yes (George), 37 no].

Senate Bill 460 allows HMOs to use industry, age, gender, group size, and duration of coverage in determining the premiums in a geographic area. It also allows commercial carriers to use industry, age, gender, group size, and duration of coverage in determining the premiums in a geographic area.

- The Senate did not concur with the House changes to SB 460 [RC 201:2 yes (Garcia, George), 36 no].

FINAL PASSAGE

SB 352 (THOMAS)

This designates March 31 of each year as Cesar E. Chavez day in Michigan. Mr. Chavez was born on March 31, 1927 (died April 23, 1993). A giant of the labor movement, he founded the United Farm Workers. He traveled often to Michigan, and several committee witnesses spoke of their work with him on labor and justice issues.

- SB 352 passed [RC 202:38 yes, 0 no].

SB 530 (Sanborn)

Senate Bill 530 would name M-53 (between 27 Mile Road and 34 Mile Road) in Macomb County the “POW/MIA Memorial Freeway.”

- SB 530 passed [RC 205: 38 yes, 0 no].

HB 4330 (Woronchak)

The bill would allow the spouse of a former prisoner of war to obtain a special registration plate; and limit the number of EX-POW registration plates to one person in any household.

- HB 4330 passed with IE [RC 203: 38 yes, 0 no].

HB 4333 (Accavitti)

The bill would increase the penalty for illegally parking in a space for the disabled. Under current law, a person who parks illegally in a space reserved for persons with disabilities is responsible for a civil infraction and must pay a fine of between \$50 and \$100, in addition to the plaintiff’s costs in connection with the action. The bill would increase the fine to a minimum of \$100 and a maximum of \$250.

- HB 4333 passed with IE [RC 204: 38 yes, 0 no].

THIRD READING

SB 360 (BARCIA)

SB 360 increases the private agricultural pesticide applicator certification fee and the private registered applicator certification from \$10 to \$50. The fee has never been increased (since it was established in 1976). This will raise an additional \$130,000 per year.

Support: Michigan Department of Agriculture.

Neutral: MI Farm Bureau.

- Committee 1 (S-1) was adopted [no RC].
- SB 360 was moved to 3rd Reading.

SB 361 (BARCIA)

The bill would increase the license application fee and to create a license renewal fee for pet shops. SB 361 would require owners to pay an initial fee of \$200 and an annual renewal of \$100. The bill would impact the 179 pet shops in Michigan. The fee has not been changed since 1970 when the bill was enacted. The program pays for a sanitary annual inspection and follow-up on complaints. The bill would increase State revenues by an estimated \$17,900.

Support: Michigan Department of Agriculture.

Neutral: MI Farm Bureau.

- Committee 1 (S-2) was adopted [no RC].

- SB 361 was moved to 3rd Reading.

SB 386 (BERNERO)

SB 386 would increase the fee paid by individuals engaged in buying, receiving, selling, transporting, or exchanging livestock. The fees have not been raised since 1957. The Senate made changes to the executive recommendation including decreasing the top category – livestock auction - from \$800 to \$400. Other decreases included collection point/buying station from \$500 to \$250 and horse auction from \$300 to \$150. The bill would increase State revenues by an estimated \$23,800.

Support: Michigan Department of Agriculture.

Neutral: MI Farm Bureau.

- Committee 1 (S-2) was adopted [no RC].
- SB 386 was moved to 3rd Reading.

SB 390 (BRATER)

The bill would increase the horse riding stable licensing fee from \$25 for an application to \$100 and \$25 annual renewal. The fee has not been increased since the bill passed in 1974. The bill would increase State revenues by \$5,000.

- Committee 1 (S-2) was adopted [no RC].
- SB 390 was moved to 3rd Reading.

SB 462 (Garcia)

The bill would transfer the responsibility for the establishment and administration of the Motorcycle Safety Program from the State Board of Education to the Secretary of State.

- Committee 1 (S-1) was adopted [no RC].
- SB 462 was moved to 3rd Reading.

SB 463 (Garcia)

The bill would increase the cost of an official State personal identification card from \$7 to \$10. The \$3 increase would generate approximately \$782,000 annually. This additional revenue is intended to begin funding the replacement of the Department of State's computer mainframe system.

- SB 463 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.

SB 480 (BRATER)

SB 480 would increase the current fees paid by nurseries and would create a new Horticulture Fund and horticultural advisory committee. The bill would increase State revenues by an estimated \$140,000.

Support: Michigan Department of Agriculture, MI Farm Bureau.

- Committee 1 (S-1) was adopted [no RC].

- Brown/BRATER 1A (2 amends) was adopted [no RC]. This regulates the administration of the Horticulture Fund.
- SB 480 was moved to 3rd Reading.

SB 485 (Garcia)

The bill would revise the interest rate on child support arrearages. Currently, twice a year, a surcharge calculated at an 8% annual rate is added to past due child support payments. Under the bill, the surcharge would be calculated at a rate equal to the adjusted prime rate determined by the Department of Treasury. This rate is now at 3.25%. Thus, this would lower the surcharge on overdue child support payments. However, should the rate increase, in the future, above 8%, this could result in a higher surcharge.

- Committee 1 (1 amend) was adopted [no RC]. Effective date: 1/15/04.
- SB 485 was moved to 3rd Reading.

SB 516 (JACOBS)

Senate Bill 516 prevents convicted sex offenders from adopting children. Currently, only convicted sex offenders whose victim was a minor are prohibited from adopting children. This bill expands the prohibition to include all convicted sex offenders.

- SB 516 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.

SB 554 (Johnson)

The bill increases various fees related to drivers' licenses, vehicle registrations, etc. The bill would generate approximately \$66.2 million from fee increases. This funding would be used by the department of state to defray costs of administering registrations and licenses and by the department of treasury to defray costs of collecting motor fuel taxes.

- Johnson 1 (S-1) was adopted [no RC]. This changed the effective date.
- Jelinek 1A was adopted [no RC]. An owner does not need to register their car if they are storing it or otherwise not driving it for an extended period of time.
- SB 554 was moved to 3rd Reading.

HB 4270 (Ehardt)

HB 4270 would establish a Medicaid Buy In Program for working disabled adults who otherwise would not qualify for Medicaid coverage because of their income and/or assets exceed the program's financial eligibility limits. This bill is designed is to remove what is often perceived as a major obstacle to the disabled in getting and holding jobs: the loss of their Medicaid coverage.

Support: Dept. of Community Health, MiJob Coalition, MI Assn. of Centers for Independent Living, Blue Water Center for Independent Living, MI Statewide Independent Living Council, Assn. of Retired Persons representative.

- Committee 1 (S-1) was adopted [no RC].
- HB 4270 was moved to 3rd Reading.

HB 4356 (Vander Veen)

House Bill 4356 would expand the scope of practice for dental hygienists and registered dental assistants under the “direct” or “general” supervision of a dentist.

Support: Department of Consumer and Industry Services, The Michigan Dental Association, Michigan Dental Association, Michigan Dental Assistants Association, Michigan Dental Hygienists’ Association.

- Committee 1 (S-1) was adopted [no RC].
- HB 4356 was moved to 3rd Reading.